

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MAY 22, 1860.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. POWELL made the following

REPORT.

[To accompany bill S. 462.]

*The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Hermon D. Stratton, a soldier in the late war with Mexico, beg leave to report :*

That it appears that the petitioner enlisted in the company of Captain John G. Hughes, of the second regiment of Ohio volunteers in the war with Mexico, and was honorably discharged at the close of the war.

The petitioner states that while in the service of the United States, and in the line of his duty, he was attacked with violent inflammation of the eyes, occasioned by exposure; that the said inflammation has resisted the prescriptions of good oculists; that it still continues, and that the sight of one eye is nearly destroyed, and the other much injured; that the inflammation of the eye renders it very difficult for him to support himself and family, and therefore prays a pension.

General William H. Lytle and Captain John O'Dowd, who were in the same regiment, corroborate the statement of the petitioner.

Honorable G. H. Pendleton, of the present Congress, and honorable W. S. Groesbeck, member of the last Congress, certify that the above named witnesses are "gentlemen of good character, and every way worthy of credit in whatever statements they may make."

It is satisfactory shown that his captain, and other officers under whom he served, are dead, or removed to such a distance as to render it impracticable to obtain their affidavits.

Charles S. Tripler, surgeon United States army, certifies that, "by satisfactory evidence and accurate examination, it appears" that the petitioner, "being engaged in the war with Mexico, at or near a place called Vera Cruz, in the republic of Mexico, contracted an inflammation of the eyes, still existing, and evidently of long standing, at present particularly affecting the right eye, and attended with severe photophobia, severely impairing vision, and rendering the right eye useless," and in his opinion the petitioner is three fourths disabled.

From the evidence presented, your committee are of the opinion that the petitioner is entitled to a pension, and, therefore, report a bill for his relief.

